



STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

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STATE MINING AND GEOLOGY BOARD MEMBER SEENA HOOSE PASSES AWAY



SACRAMENTO -- State Mining and Geology Board (SMGB) board member and world-renowned expert on groundwater geology Seena Hoose passed away September 16 after a brief illness.

"Mrs. Hoose was a dedicated public servant and an outstanding scientist who we will miss personally and professionally," California Department of Conservation Director Bridgett Luther said.

Funeral arrangements are private. A memorial dinner is planned November 8 in San Jose. The Hoose family has created an email account to answer questions and accept condolences and RSVPs to the memorial, SeenaHooseMemorial@hotmail.com.

Mrs. Hoose, 67, of Cupertino, served on the SMGB's Geohazards, Minerals & Geologic Resources, and Policy & Legislation committees.

"Having worked with Mrs. Hoose for the last three years, I am deeply saddened by her death," SMGB Executive Officer Stephen Testa said. "This is a tremendous loss for the Board. Mrs. Hoose brought a great deal of experience and perspective to us, worked tirelessly on behalf of the residents of California, and had the respect of all of those with whom she worked, served and regulated. When the Board was considering matters, she was always the first to remind us that the Board serves the public's interest."

Mrs. Hoose was an engineering geologist for the Santa Clara Valley Water District when appointed to the SMGB by Governor Schwarzenegger in March 2005. From 1993-2001, she served on the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists at the appointment of Governor Wilson. Mrs. Hoose served as associate geologist for the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board and research geologist for the United States Geological Survey. She was a registered geologist, certified engineering geologist, and certified hydrogeologist.

Mrs. Hoose was the second woman in the University of California system to receive a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. In the early 1970s, she authored one of the leading papers about the phenomenon of earthquake-caused liquefaction while with the United States Geological Survey.

Mrs. Hoose was a member of the Geological Society of America, Association for Women Geoscientists, and Association of Engineering Geologists.

Mrs. Hoose is survived by her husband Robert, sons Shawn and Rowan, and Shawn's wife, Dori.

The SMGB operates within the Department of Conservation and has certain autonomous responsibilities and obligations. The SMGB serves as a regulatory, policy, and appeals body representing the state's interest in geology, geologic and seismologic hazards, conservation of mineral resources, and reclamation of lands following surface mining activities.